

SECRET

D/FBIS Chrono

FBIS-0234/85
22 May 1985

Chief, Management Staff

DDS&T

Room 6E45 - Headquarters

For the report to the DCI.



C/E&PS/FBIS

1013 Key



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DDS&T/FBIS/E&PS  (22May85)

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- 1 - D/FBIS Chrono
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SECRETFOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICEOf Special Interest This Week

+ FBIS bureaus were notified when Radio Marti went on the air, and in fact FBIS observations on radio behavior alerted the Radio Marti Task Force to a potentially embarrassing situation. FBIS noted that Radio Marti was transmitting, among other frequencies, on 1420 kHz, which was an unannounced frequency and a surprise to VOA. Acting on the FBIS alert, the FCC determined that the Marti signal on 1420 kHz was a spurious radiation resulting from interaction of Marti's transmitters with a commercial broadcast station a mile away. FCC and VOA technicians worked with the FBIS Key West Bureau in trying to correct the situation. To compound the confusion, a Radio Marti Task Force Sitrep erroneously stated that FBIS had reported a "pirate radio station" in the Florida Keys; FBIS in fact had only reported to the Task Force that Marti was being heard on the spurious frequency. In addition to extensive worldwide reaction to the inauguration of Marti broadcasts, FBIS is reporting on behavior of Cuban transmitters which can be used for jamming or counter-broadcasting. ☐

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+ On 17 May a message from the U.S. Embassy in San Salvador requested that FBIS compile ASAP all published radio broadcasts reporting Government atrocities in El Salvador since January. The request was to assist Embassy efforts to assess guerrilla claims of indiscriminate air and ground attacks against civilians. FBIS retrieved and filed some 30 responsive items. ☐

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